

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of all presently amended and newly presented claims are respectfully requested. Claims 1-7, 12-18, 20-26, 31-37 and 46-51 are now pending official consideration in this application.

By this amendment, claims 38-45 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and claims 1, 5, 6, 15 and 20 are amended above so as to give greater emphasis to some of the novel and patentable features set forth in these claims. New claims 46-52 are also added. The amendments and newly submitted claims are fully supported by the original disclosure and, thus, no new matter has been added. If the Examiner should disagree, however, it is respectfully requested that the challenged amendments/limitations be pointed out with particularity in the next Action so support may be cited in response.

Re the 35 U. S. C. § 102(b) Rejection:

The rejection of claims 1, 20 and 40-45 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Wada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,657,672) is respectfully traversed.

The Wada et al. patent discloses a hang-glider flight simulator game that uses two separate display monitors (61 and 62) to display different viewpoints of a 3-D virtual landscape during a player's simulated flight. However, the Wada et al. patent does not disclose or suggest performing a coordinate conversion process, in which coordinates indicating a current location of the object in the first game space are projected on a plane corresponding to the second game space, so as to convert the coordinates in the first game space to coordinates in the second game space, thereby calculating coordinates indicating a location of a shadow of the object, wherein a related image of the object is created so as to correspond to the object which is present in the first

game space and whose coordinates have been projected in the location indicated by the coordinates calculated by the coordinate conversion process, as set forth in Applicant's independent claims 1 and 20 as amended.

Consequently, the Wada et al. patent does not anticipate claims 1 and 20, as amended, because it does not disclose every element as set forth in either claim 1 or claim 20. See Lewmar Marine, Inc. v. Barient, Inc., 3 U.S.P.Q. 2d 1766 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

Re the 35 U. S. C. § 103(a) Rejection:

The rejection of claims 1-7, 12, 17, 20-26 and 31-36 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Jaffe (U.S. Patent No. 6,254,481) in view of Wada et al. is respectfully traversed.

Jaffe (the '481 patent) discloses a gaming machine that includes first and second video displays and a controller that creates the illusion of a "unified" image using the separate images of the first and second displays. Neither the '481 Jaffe patent nor the '672 Wada et al. patent, considered either alone or together, teach or suggest performing a coordinate conversion process, in which coordinates indicating a current location of the object in the first game space are projected on a plane corresponding to the second game space, so as to convert the coordinates in the first game space to coordinates in the second game space, thereby calculating coordinates indicating a location of a shadow of the object, wherein a related image of the object is created so as to correspond to the object which is present in the first game space and whose coordinates have been projected in the location indicated by the coordinates calculated by the coordinate conversion process, as set forth in Applicant's independent claims 1 and 20 as amended.

Claims 2-7, 12, 17, 21-26 and 31-36 are dependent on claims 1 and 20, and since neither the '672 Wada et al. patent nor the '481 Jaffe patent suggest the features discussed above and set forth in applicant's independent claim 1 and 20, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claims 2-7, 12, 17, 21-26 and 31-36 are patentable over the combined teachings of these references.

The rejection of claims 18 and 37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Jaffe in view of Wada et al., as applied to claims 1 and 20, and further in view of U.S. patent 6,238,291 to Fujimoto et al. is also respectfully traversed.

Jaffe in view of Wada et al. clearly does not disclose or suggest a second game machine being a portable game machine having a display nor does Jaffe in view of Wada et al. disclose or suggest performing a coordinate conversion process as set forth in Applicants claims as presently amended. Although Fujimoto et al. (the '291 patent) disclose a TV game machine arrangement for card games or mahjong where images for a common playing field are displayed on a common display and images of each player's individual game cards/pieces are displayed on the separate displays of several individual portable game machines, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no teaching or suggestion in the '291 Fujimoto et al. patent that remedies the deficiencies of Jaffe in view of Wada et al. as set forth above, or suggests any motivation to modify Jaffe in view of Wada et al. to arrive at the claimed subject matter of Applicant's independent claims from which claims 18 and 37 depend.

Moreover, Applicant respectfully submits that neither Wada et al. nor Jaffe nor Fujimoto, nor any other of the prior art references of record either disclose or suggest providing a virtual game world that displays two positionally related but distinct virtual game spaces wherein one game space is represented by a three-dimensional game space and the other is represented by a

two-dimensional game space, as set forth in Applicant's claims. In addition, none of the prior art of record discloses or suggests providing two display devices wherein one display device is used for displaying the three-dimensional game space of the game world while the other display is used for displaying the two-dimensional game space of the game world, as set forth in Applicant's claims.

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully solicited. If any small matter remains outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicant's representatives at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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